






ILLUSIONS OF ADULTING

by Sara Zimmerman

A comic panel featuring two young women with large, expressive eyes. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a teal tank top. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a purple top. They are both looking at each other with surprised expressions, their hands near their mouths. The background is a simple pink curtain with vertical folds. A speech bubble from the blonde woman is at the top, and a speech bubble from the dark-haired woman is at the bottom.

I can't believe your mom and Steve's mom already picked out wedding gowns for you.

They're just trying to be nice. I'm going to humor them by at least looking at them before I choose my own.

Thank you so much for
arranging a day at the
bridal salon.

I'm so glad to get a day to
focus on nothing but me
and my wedding.

ILLUSION:

A day to focus only on
ME and get spoiled.



REALITY:

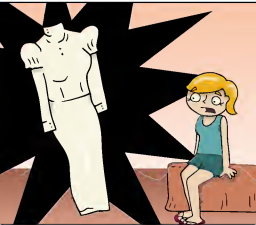
Hailey, we know you have big decisions ahead about jobs and moving, so we wanted to eliminate as many other stressful decisions as possible to help you.



We narrowed down the choices for your wedding gowns to one I liked and one your mom chose.

This
one...





...or this
one?



Oh... wow... uh...

A comic panel showing two girls in a dressing room. The girl on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a teal dress. The girl on the right has dark hair and is wearing a purple dress. They are both looking shocked. A speech bubble from the blonde girl says "My eyes are bleeding." Another speech bubble from the dark-haired girl says "Those dresses are hideous. I'll let them down easy and go choose my own." The background is a pink curtain.

My eyes are bleeding.

Those dresses are hideous.
I'll let them down easy and
go choose my own.

Hailey, we spent days and days going through hundreds and hundreds of wedding gowns.



We finally chose dresses that represent our individual love for you. It would mean so much to both of us if you would choose which dress means the most to you.

So, which one do you like
more... the one I chose or
the one Diane chose??



Errr... ummm... well...

So, what do you think?
It'd be a crime to not choose
one of these beautiful dresses!



Ummmm...

Hailey, I think you should
get to choose your
OWN wedding gown; one
that you really love.




Well, yes, dear. Hailey should choose one she loves.



But, we know how stressed she is with other life choices. Hailey will just get overwhelmed by sorting through hundreds of dresses and should just chose one of these.



So, again... do you
want the one I
chose for you...



...or the one
your mom
chose for you?

Uhhhhhh...



I DONT WANT TO HURT
HER FEELINGS BECAUSE
SHE IS PAYING FOR MY
WEDDING.






AND I DONT WANT
TO HURT HER
FEELINGS BECAUSE
SHE IS MY MOM.



It's really so nice of you to go to
so much trouble, and I appreciate
all that you are doing for me...



...and, I really don't want to hurt
either of your feelings...



...BUT THIS
IS TOO
MUCH!

A cartoon illustration of a young girl with blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a teal tank top. She is looking up at a large, white, classical-style statue of a man. The statue is standing in a museum-like setting with a dark, textured background. The girl has a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of shock or awe. A speech bubble from the statue says "I... I..." and another speech bubble from the girl says "...I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!!!".

I... I...

...I HAVE TO GET
OUT OF HERE!!!

Hailey. WAIT!



TO BE CONTINUED...

by Sara Zimmerman / Unearthed Comics

Have you ever been faced with a situation where someone tried to help, but only ended up putting you in a difficult spot? Share your experience below.